

 National Dropout Prevention Center
for Students with Disabilities

**Creating a Seamless System in Dropout
Prevention:
A Comprehensive K-12 Approach**

Neosho R-5 Schools
Stacey Tracy

Strategies for Building Capacity and Sustaining Efforts

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Where is Neosho, Missouri?



The map shows the state of Missouri with its major cities labeled: St. Joseph, Gladstone, Kansas City, Independence, Raytown, Hannibal, Columbia, Clayton, St. Charles, St. Louis, Jefferson City, Joplin, Neosho, Springfield, and Cape Girardeau. The surrounding states are labeled: IOWA, NEBRASKA, KANSAS, OKLAHOMA, ARKANSAS, KENTUCKY, and TENNESSEE. The Missouri River is shown flowing through the state, and the Lake of the Ozarks is marked near Springfield. The map also shows the Mississippi River and the Gasconade Mountains.

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Who We Are

Size: 4, 665 Students

- Asian 1.4%
- Black 1.5%
- Hispanic 10.4 %
- Indian 2.8%
- White 79.3%

Free and Reduce Lunch Rate
62.2%

- School configuration**
 - An Early Childhood Center
 - 5 K-4 Elementary Schools
 - 1 5-7 Middle School
 - 1 Jr. High 8th grade only
 - 1 9-12 High School
- 83.3 Graduation Rate 2009**
- 6% Dropout Rate 2009**



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Challenges

- Drug Abuse**
 - Meth 417 area code
Number 1 in Meth
production in the USA.
- Low Socio-economic**
 - Lack of industry, Many places have
left Neosho.
- Child Abuse**
 - Newton County Number 1 in state
for children removed from the
home.
- Inadequate Housing**
 - Many families live in housing without
utilities, without furniture, families
doubled up.



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How we developed a PreK-12 Approach??

Fall 2009

- Selected by state of Missouri to participate in the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities Initiative.
- Reps from K-12 concerned about dropouts.
- Team selected for training primarily Secondary :
- Sp. Ed Director, HS Process Coordinator, High School Assistant Principal, High School Counselor, 2 Practical Arts Teachers and 1 Special Education Teacher.
- Spring training –added Assist. Supt. JH & MS Admin, Teachers & Counselors, as well as elem. Principals and all HS admin.



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NDPC Dropout Training

- We can predict in elementary school who will dropout based on established factors such as
- Aggressive/Poor Behavior
- Poor attendance
- Being retained
- Poor academics-specifically in math & com arts
- Lack of parental involvement



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Shifting Paradigm as Result of NDPC training

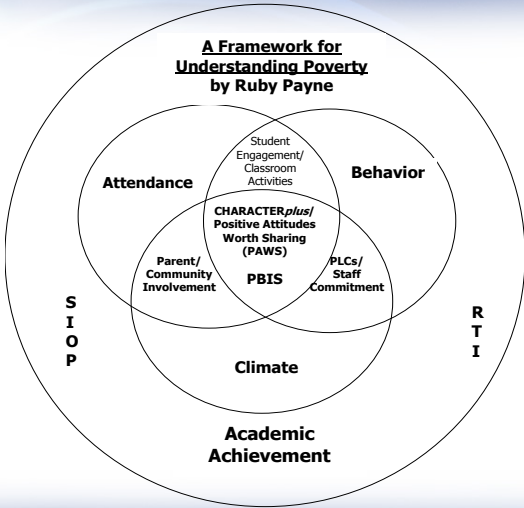
- **Activity**
- Push out Policies-Separating punishment from academics: OSS/Discipline
- Sharing data in Collaboration
- K-12 Everyone has a part to play. Teamwork!
- Student to teacher responsibility
- Mastery learning
- Evaluating Policies- Ongoing Example : Retention Policy
- Principals must submit list to Sp. Ed Director

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Neosho's Contextual Fit

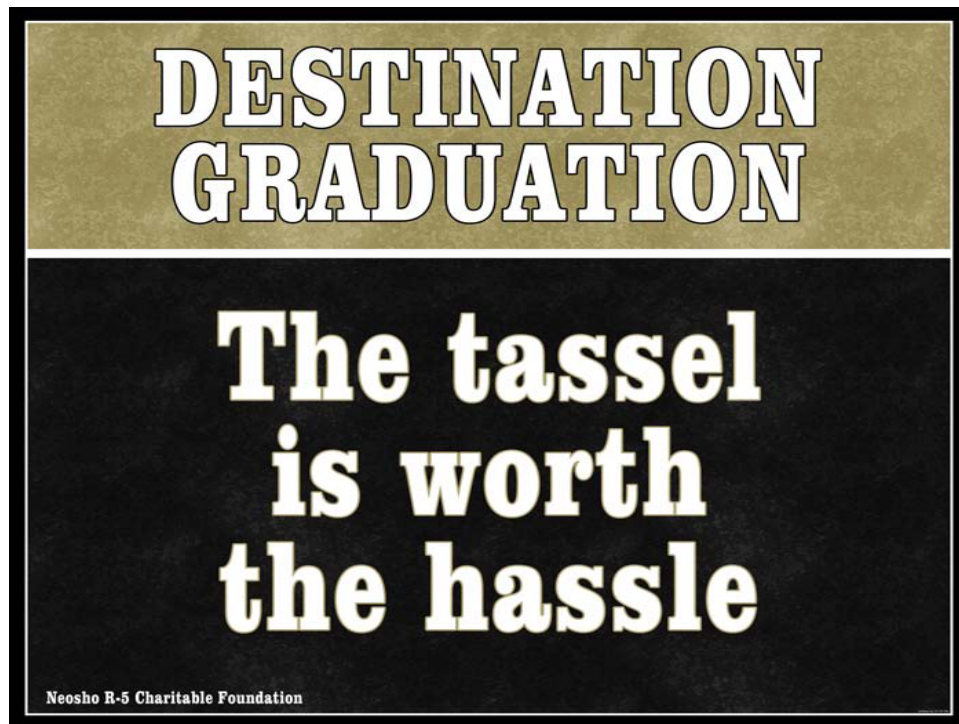
**A Framework for
Understanding Poverty
by Ruby Payne**



Academic Achievement

S I O P **R T I**

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Destination Graduation
The Tassel is Worth the Hassle
Banners in every Building PreK-High School
Class of 2024-2011

Opening Day Kick off- all personnel
T-shirts (Combining Character & Destination Graduation)
Senior Class Meeting-Supt & Asst. Supt speak importance of graduating
Character Ed Carnival
Each school sponsored a game with a graduation theme:
Backpack relay and changed into a cap & gown

Senior Citizen Banquet Theme
Community Service and Club Presentations
Chamber of Commerce, Neosho Area Coalition, Rotary Club,
Neosho Ministerial Alliance



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Destination Graduation The Tassel is Worth the Hassle!

Food for Thought
(weekend backpack food program) **Serve 206 students/families**

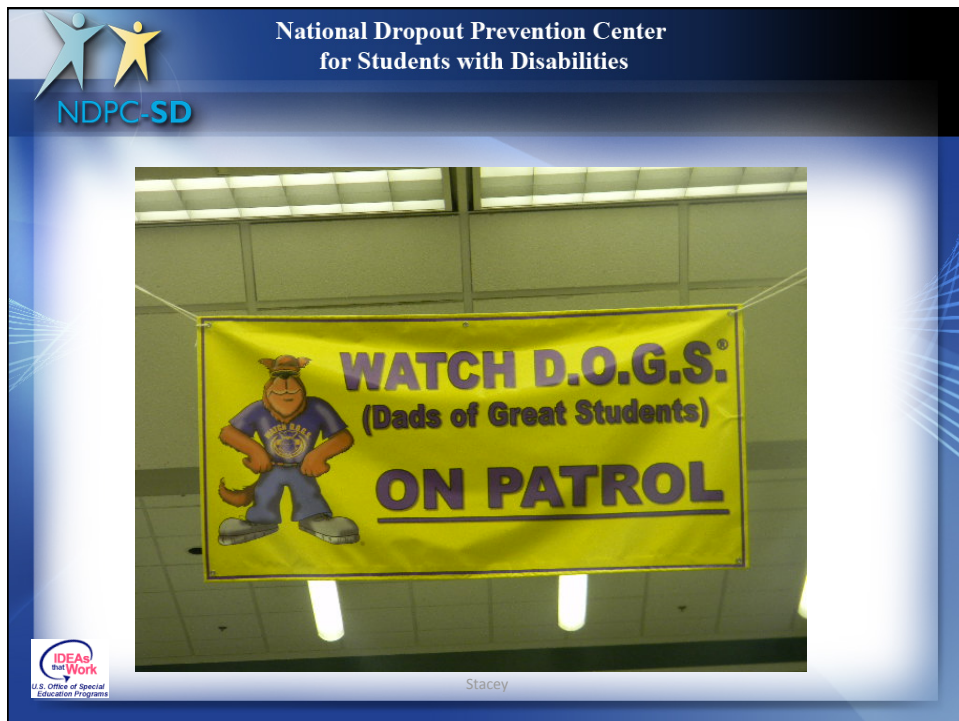
Parent Education

- EYES WIDE OPEN** (Parent Education Program MS- HS)
- ESL Parent Night**
- ELEM Parent Reading Nights**



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**WATCH DOG
DADS**




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REMINDERS ARE EVERYWHERE!!



**SENIOR
ENGLISH
CLASSES**



University?
Community College?

Tech School?
Apprenticeship?
Job Market?

**SENIOR
BULLETIN
BOARD**

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What's Your Next Destination????

University?
Community College?

Tech School?
Apprenticeship?
Job Market?

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 **NEOSHO** *New for Fall 2011*

BRIGHTfutures™

CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESS

Community Advisory Board

Community Business & Faith Based

Bright Futures allows communities and schools to identify student needs and match those needs with existing resources in the community. It is unique in that it does meet those basic needs, but also allows for the development of quality, productive citizens. It's a great CAUSE, with great EFFECTS. Each school is assigned community partners and school staff meet with the community partners to discuss needs and goals. Student's needs are posted on facebook allowing the community to be able to meet those needs.

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Data Driven Insanity

- New Data Collection System
- Negative feeling everyone should be privy to all information.
- Taking some of the autonomy from each building.
- No more hidden information in buildings.
- Everyone saying, "This cannot be done!"
- Can someone help us with the appropriate queries?
- 2011-12 NPDC Data forms K-12

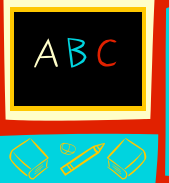


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Attendance

Improve attendance for ALL students K-12 by increasing the attendance rate from 95% to 96% (ADA)

Academics

Improve academics by decreasing D's and F's by 3% in Communication Arts & Math

Behavior

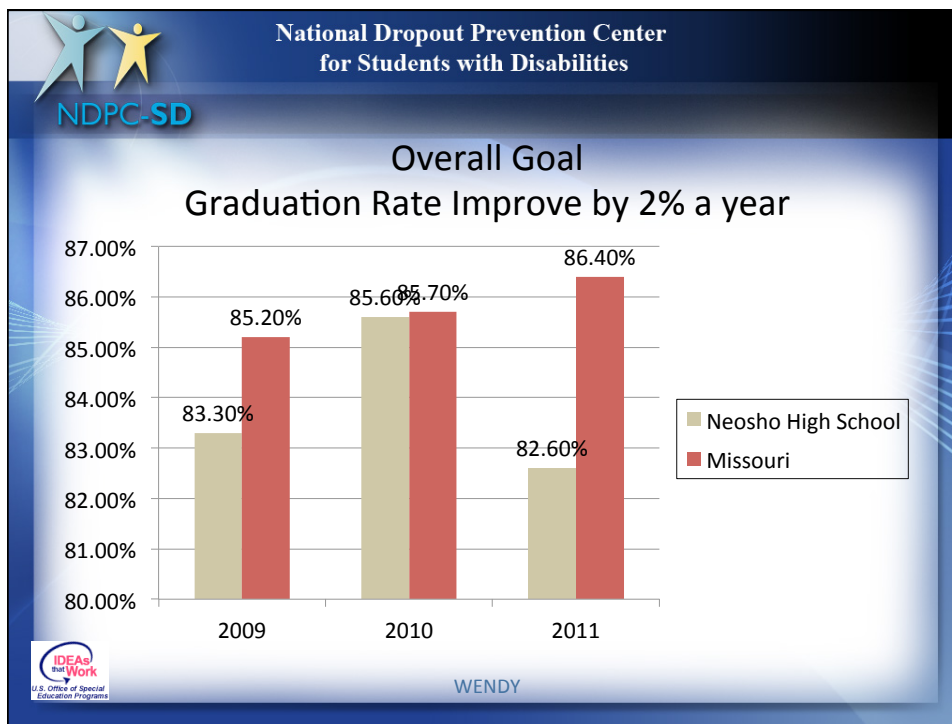
Improve behavior by decreasing discipline referrals K-12 by 20%.

Climate

Improve by 10% Public perceptions of teachers, students' satisfaction with the school, students' perception of the friendliness of the student body, community pride in district schools.



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District Wide Implementation

Automated Phone System/email-Increase communication
Notify Parents of Absences, School closings, school events, ASD & Sat. School

Attendance Letters
Notify parents of 4th, 7th and 10th absences
Coordinate with the Prosecuting attorney educational neglect charges.

Behavior: Shared Behavior Expectations: PAWS Elem.-Junior High

Climate
Customer Service Orientation to all personnel- bus drivers, student assistants, secretaries, nurses, aides, teachers principals and supt.

Public Relations
22 Character Partners, Facebook, newspaper, Phone app, newsletters, newspaper,

Board Reports
Each building reports how they are meeting Dropout Prevention Goals



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High School Implementation

- **Remove Barriers to Regular Attendance**
 - Attendance committees meeting qtrly
 - Saturday Makeup Days- Students Choose to attend 4 hrs and receive 1 day restored attendance. Must bring homework and is supervised by counselor.
 - First semester 2 Sat. School offered – 5 students participated
 - Second semester 7 Sat. offered. 18 students 18 days @ \$25 /student = \$450
 - Attendance Contest 2nd Sem. Feb 14th- May 10th Class officer selected reward
 - **9th Grade 94.75% 10th Grade 93.83% 11th 94.93% 12th 94.90**

**OSS change to allow Transitional Learning Center program for students.
Increase Attendance as well as Academic Achievement**

• <u>1st Qtr 33 referrals</u> • 23 students (70%) participated • Days Served: 72.5 Days • ADA \$25/day= \$1812.5 • <u>2nd Qtr 18 referrals</u> • 8 served (44%) • Participated • Days Served: 40 • ^ADA \$25/day= \$1000	• <u>3rd Qtr 25 referrals</u> • 21 Students (84% %) participated • Days Served: 74.5 • ADA \$25/day=\$1862.5
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Offense	Discipline Numbers					SWD
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11		
Assault	43	24	25	29	8	
Cell Phone	588	494	363	268	33	
Change ASD	376	331	164	131	1	
Defi/Disrespect	412	328	236	436 (242 9 th)	73	
Disruption	269	185	183	213 (147 9 th)	23	
Dress & Groom	500	294	51	22	7	
Missed Sat Schl	194	127	76	70	4 calling system reminder	
Missed ASD	733	545	413	364 (173 9 th)	51 calling system reminder	
Fighting	35	37	23	56	15	
Lack of Effort	336	161	103	139 (92 9 th)	21	
Tardy	744	845	181	427 (215 9 th)	60	
Truancy	342	281	145	156	21	
Other	88	54	125	151	28	


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High School Implementation

- **Climate Improvement for teachers/students/parents**
 - 2 PLC Culture Core Groups
 - **Student Recognition**
 - Character Café, Student of the month
 - End of the Year Recognition Assembly
 - I Pick You Activity (Student identifies one staff member who cares about them)
 - **Teacher/Staff Social Interaction**
 - Monthly Birthday Celebrations
 - STAR teacher Award voted on by students
 - Qtrly PLC for Staff Team Building
 - **Counseling Dept.**
 - Facilitate better staff relations New Teacher Luncheon. Faculty Dinner before Parent/Teacher Conferences, Mailbox messages
 - Lunch In Mentoring Program /Job shadowing for 10-12 grades



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High School Implementation

- MO Options GED Program
 - 15 Students in program: & 7/8 passed GED of students
- Flex Time
 - 15 students in the program
- PLATO-Virtual Learning Class
 - 36 Semester credits recovered for Semester 1.
 - 56 Semester credits recovered so far for Semester 2. Total of 92 with 4-5 pending
- LINK CREW
 - 70 Jrs. & Srs. serve as Mentors for Freshmen



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Neosho's First 3 MO Options Grads



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The slide features a blue header with the NDPC-SD logo and title. Below the title, the text 'Neosho's First 3 MO Options Grads' is centered. A photograph shows four individuals (three men and one woman) standing in front of a decorated Christmas tree. The man on the far left wears a black sweatshirt with 'PIZZA' written on it. The man next to him wears a grey polo shirt and black shorts. The man in the center wears a black long-sleeved shirt and grey pants. The woman on the far right wears a black t-shirt and blue jeans. The background is a simple room with a Christmas tree and string lights.

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Celebrate!!!



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The slide features a blue header with the NDPC-SD logo and title. Below the title, the text 'Celebrate!!!' is centered. A photograph shows a group of approximately 12 people, including men and women, posing for a group photo in a room decorated with Christmas lights and garlands. The group is standing in front of a white wall with a large window. The people are dressed in casual to semi-formal attire. The background includes a Christmas tree and string lights.



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Middle School Implementation

- Good to Great Team
 - What type of school do we want our children or grandchildren to attend?
 - What can we do to make our school fit that picture?

PBIS

PLC



Doretta



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Middle School Implementation

- Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS)
 - Common Expectations
 - Teach Expectations
 - Recognize Students

Improves Climate and Individual Student Success

Implementation Results

1059 referrals 2009-2010

850 referrals 2010-2011



Doretta



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Elementary Implementation

- Character Assemblies—"Tassel Tuesdays"
- Incorporating monthly Career Ed speakers
- T-shirts/Bulletin Boards/Banners/ Yearbook
- Attendance Parties
- Parent Nights
- List of 2011 Graduates (by Elementary Attended)
- Graduation Cards from each elementary to Class of 2011



Glynda & Wendy









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What We Have Learned

- Dropout Prevention is hard work and a process but the rewards are great. You must be committed.
- Dropout Prevention is everyone's responsibility!
- Central Office Administration support is key!
- Send a variety of people to training- you need different views- that will make your group stronger. Include Elementary people!!!!
- Celebrate your successes!!!!!!



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GRADUATION TRADITIONS



Painting the Hill!

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Graduation



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Questions???

Contact Information

Dr. Doretta Fox, Middle School Principal
417-451-8650 or foxdoretta@neosho.k12.mo.us

Wendy Linton, Professional High School Counselor
417-451-8672 or lintonwendy@neosho.k12.mo.us

Stacey, Tracy, Director of Special Services
417-451-8682 or tracystacey@neosho.k12.mo.us



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